

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A floating conductor pad for a wireless communication device, the wireless communication device having an antenna element and a plurality of device components, comprising an antenna and device components in an operating environment of the antenna, the antenna element fabricated from a conductive material using etching, the antenna element fabricated on a substrate, the floating conductor pad comprising a patch of conductive material fabricated on a flat substrate, the floating conductor pad positioned in the wireless communication device such that at least a portion of the floating conductor pad is adjacent to at least a portion of the antenna element and positioned such that the proximity of the antenna element and the floating conductor pad results in electromagnetic coupling between the antenna element and the floating conductor pad, the floating conductor positioned to reduce the level of noise that could couple to the antenna element from at least one of the device components in the wireless communication device, configured to be positioned adjacent the antenna to couple to the antenna, whereby the floating conductor pad has a dominant effect on the antenna in the operating environment.
2. (Original) The floating conductor pad of claim 1, wherein the patch of conductive material has a rectangular shape.
3. (Original) The floating conductor pad of claim 1, wherein the conductive material is selected from the group consisting of: copper and silver.

4. (Currently amended) The floating conductor pad of claim 1, wherein the floating conductor pad is ~~positioned~~ fabricated on a single dielectric substrate with the antenna element.

5. (Currently amended) The floating conductor pad of claim 1, wherein the device components ~~comprise~~ include a printed circuit board, and wherein the floating conductor pad is mounted on the printed circuit board.

6. (Currently amended) The floating conductor pad of claim 1, wherein the device components ~~comprise~~ include a plurality of printed circuit boards, and wherein the floating conductor pad is configured to be mounted on one of the plurality of printed circuit boards.

7. (Currently amended) The floating conductor pad of claim 6, wherein the one of the plurality of printed circuit boards ~~carries~~ supports components of a keyboard of the wireless communication device.

8. (Currently amended) The floating conductor pad of claim 7, wherein dimensions and orientation of the floating conductor pad are selected so as to ~~cancel~~ reduce noise generated by operation of the keyboard.

9. (Currently amended) The floating conductor pad of claim 1, wherein the floating conductor pad masks the antenna from effects of variations in the device components.

10. (Currently amended) An antenna for a wireless communication device, the wireless communication device having a plurality of device components, the antenna comprising:

a first antenna element fabricated from a conductive material using etching, the first antenna element fabricated on a substrate; and

a floating conductor pad fabricated from a conductive material, the floating conductor pad fabricated on a substrate, the floating conductor pad positioned in the wireless communication device such that at least a portion of the floating conductor pad is adjacent to at least a portion of the first antenna element and positioned such that the proximity of the first antenna element and the floating conductor pad results in electromagnetic coupling between the first antenna element and the floating conductor pad, and configured to couple to the antenna element, to thereby reduce effects of variations in the device components on the antenna the floating conductor positioned to reduce the level of noise that could couple to the first antenna element from at least one of the device components in the wireless communication device.

11. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim 10, wherein the first antenna element comprises a first conductor section and a second conductor section, and wherein the floating conductor pad comprises a conductive patch adjacent one but not the other of the first conductor section and the second conductor section.

12. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim 10, ~~wherein the antenna element is configured to operate in a first operating frequency band,~~ further comprising:

a second antenna element fabricated on a substrate and positioned adjacent to the first antenna element and the floating conductor pad and, the second antenna element having a second

an operating frequency band that is different from the operating frequency band of the first antenna element.

13. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim 12, ~~further comprising: a substrate;~~ wherein the first antenna element and the second antenna element are located on the same substrate.

14. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim ~~13~~ 10, wherein the ~~floating conductor pad is located on the substrate on which the first antenna element is fabricated is a flexible dielectric substrate.~~

15. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim ~~13~~ 14, wherein the ~~device components comprise a printed circuit board, and wherein the floating conductor pad is mounted on the printed circuit board~~ substrate on which the first antenna element is fabricated and the first antenna element are folded from an original substantially flat configuration so as to orient the first antenna element in multiple planes.

16. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim ~~15~~ 10, wherein the ~~floating conductor pad comprises a conductive patch on the printed circuit board~~ conductive material from which the floating conductor pad is fabricated is selected from the group consisting of copper and silver.

17. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim ~~14~~ 10, wherein the ~~substrate is folded to mount the antenna to a plurality of inside surfaces of the wireless communication device~~ first antenna element and the floating conductor pad are fabricated on the same substrate.

18. (Currently amended) The antenna of claim 12, wherein the ~~first~~ operating frequency band of the first antenna element includes both an 1800MHz communication frequency band and a 1900MHz communication frequency band, and wherein the ~~second~~ operating frequency band of the second antenna element comprises a 900MHz communication frequency band.

19. (Currently amended) A wireless mobile communication device comprising:

a transceiver incorporating transceiver components;

~~an~~ a first antenna element fabricated from a conductive material using etching, the first antenna element fabricated on a substrate, the first antenna element connected to the transceiver; and

a floating conductor pad fabricated from a conductive material, the floating conductor pad fabricated on a substrate, the floating conductor pad positioned in the wireless communication device such that at least a portion of the floating conductor pad is adjacent to at least a portion of the first antenna element and configured to couple to the antenna to reduce effects of variations in positioned such that the proximity of the first antenna element and the floating conductor pad results in electromagnetic coupling between the first antenna element and the floating conductor pad, the floating conductor pad positioned to reduce the level of noise that could couple to the first antenna element from the transceiver components on the antenna in the mobile communication device.

20. (Currently amended) The wireless mobile communication device of claim 19, ~~further comprising: a printed circuit board~~, wherein the substrate on which the floating conductor pad is ~~mounted on the fabricated is~~ a printed circuit board.

Please cancel claim 21.

22. (Original) The wireless mobile communication device of claim 19, further comprising:
a first printed circuit board; and
a second printed circuit board,
wherein the floating conductor pad is positioned between the first printed circuit board and the second printed circuit board.

23. (Original) The wireless mobile communication device of claim 22, wherein the first printed circuit board carries the transceiver components, and wherein the second printed circuit board carries components of a keyboard of the wireless mobile communication device.

24. (Original) The wireless mobile communication device of claim 19, wherein the wireless mobile communication device is selected from the group consisting of: a data communication device, a voice communication device, a dual-mode communication device, a mobile telephone having data communications functionality, a personal digital assistant (PDA) enabled for wireless communications, a wireless email communication device, and a wireless modem.